Thursday, September 24, 2009

Contract and Land Management RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 26

Subject: Authorize execution of a construction contract with TEXAS SOLAR POWER COMPANY, Austin, TX, for the Glen Bell Solar Panel Installation Project in the amount of \$585,287.83.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Capital Budget of Austin Energy.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Robert Egan 974-7220; Robin Field 974-7064; Scott Jarman 482-5307; April

Thedford 974-7141

Purchasing Language: Lowest bid of five (5) bids received.

MBE/WBE: This contract will be awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9A of the City Code (Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program). No subcontracting opportunities were identified; therefore, no goals were established for this solicitation.

Boards and Commission Action: Recommended by the Electric Utility Commission, the Resource Management Commission, and the Water and Wastewater Commission.

This project supports Austin Energy's (AE) commitment to renewable energy as stated in AE's 2003 Approved Strategic Plan and the Austin Climate Protection Plan. The Strategic Plan calls for AE to implement a highly visible public awareness and education program involving the installation of photovoltaic (PV) projects at schools, libraries, community centers and city buildings.

The Glen Bell Service Center is a 77,000 square foot office, maintenance and warehouse facility occupied by Austin Water Utility. The solar equipment to be installed at the Center at 3907 South Industrial Drive, meets AE's program requirements and includes a total of 1,000 "peel and stick" PV solar modules attached directly to the new roof membrane. These modules are rated at 136 watts for a total of 136 kW. Associated inverters are rated at 96% efficiency. A total of 105 kW in demand savings is expected. This energy improvement will save an estimated 167,605 kWh per year, which is enough to provide electricity to 17 average Austin homes for a year, and produce an estimated 167 Renewable Energy Credits per year. These savings are equivalent to the planting of 3,657 trees or 183 acres of forest in Austin's parks or the removal of 187,253 vehicle miles or 23 cars from Austin roadways. This project will save 107 tons of Carbon Dioxide (CO2), 41 pounds of Sulfur Dioxide (SO2), 206 pounds of Nitrogen Oxide (NOx) and 269 pounds of Carbon Monoxide (CO) from being emitted into the atmosphere.

The contract allows 135 working days for completion of this project.